

Message Text

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51

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 NEA-06 ISO-00 OMB-01 AID-05 SAM-01

SAB-01 SAJ-01 EB-04 COME-00 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 AGR-05

SWF-01 FEAE-00 SCI-02 STR-01 INT-05 OPIC-06 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SSC-01 DRC-01 /102 W

----- 125620

R 151138Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7621

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION BERLIN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, ENRG, TH

SUBJ: THAI CABINET MEMBERS POSTPONE THEIR VISITS TO THE MIDDLE
EAST, EASTERN EUROPE AND NORTH KOREA

REF: A) FBIS D111440Z OCT 74; B) BANGKOK 15706 (NOTAL)

C) BANGKOK 15150 (NOTAL)

1. A THAI OFFICIAL HAS TOLD US THAT THE TRADE MISSION
TO THE MIDDLE EAST HAS BEEN POSTPONED AND WILL NOW DEPART
BANGKOK ON OR ABOUT OCTOBER 25. DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER
CHATCHAI CHUNHAWAN'S VISIT TO EASTERN EUROPE, WHICH WAS
SCHEDULED TO FOLLOW THE MIDDLE EAST TRIP, IS PRESUMABLY
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ALSO POSTPONED. THE LOCAL PRESS REPORTS THAT DEPUTY

COMMERCE MINISTER PRASONG SUKHUM'S TRADE MISSION TO NORTH KOREA IS NOW TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR EARLY DECEMBER, DEPENDING ON PASSAGE OF THE STATE-TO-STATE TRADE BILL WHICH THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IS STILL CONSIDERING.

2. THE "BANGKOK POST" OF OCTOBER 11 REPORTED CHATCHAI AS SAYING THAT THAILAND WILL OFFER 200,000 TONS OF RICE, 200,000 TONS OF SUGAR AND 200,000 TONS OF CEMENT TO IRAN, SAUDI ARABIA AND KUWAIT IN EXCHANGE FOR CRUDE OIL. THE NEWSPAPER ALSO REPORTS THAT THE NATIONAL IRANIAN OIL COMPANY HAS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN CAPITAL PARTICIPATION IN OIL REFINING IN THAILAND, AND THAT MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES WILL BE INVITED TO INVEST IN JOINT VENTURES HERE. MAJOR GENERAL PRAMAN ANDIREKSAN, PRESIDENT OF THE THAI TEXTILE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION, WILL ACCOMPANY THE MIDDLE EAST MISSION TO TRY TO SELL TEXTILE PRODUCTS TO IRAN AND THE ARAB COUNTRIES. CHAO CHAOKWANYUEN, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE THAI OIL REFINING COMPANY, AND C.J. JUANG, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF SUMMIT OIL COMPANY, WILL DISCUSS OIL SUPPLIES AND PRICES, HOPING TO GAIN FAVORABLE TERMS AND REGULAR SUPPLIES FOR LONG CONTRACT PERIODS.

3. COMMENT: CHATCHAI WILL RESIGN AS DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER TO RUN FOR THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IN THE GENERAL ELECTIONS SCHEDULED FOR 1 FEBRUARY 1975. HE AND PRAMAN, WHO IS HIS BROTHER-IN-LAW, ARE COLLABORATING IN THE FORMATION OF A POLITICAL PARTY. SUCCESS IN THEIR MISSION TO THE MIDDLE EAST WOULD BE A SUBSTANTIAL POLITICAL PLUM FOR THEIR PARTY IN THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN.
MASTERS

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